

# **National Junior Honor Society By-Laws**

## **PAT AND CATHERINE FOWLER MIDDLE SCHOOL**

### **ARTICLE I**

#### **Name and Purpose**

**Section 1.** The name of this organization shall be the Pat and Catherine Fowler Middle School chapter of the National Junior Honor Society.

**Section 2.** The purpose of this organization shall be to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, to develop character, and to encourage citizenship in the students of Fowler Middle School.

### **ARTICLE II**

#### **Selection Procedures**

**Section 1.** The sponsors develop and revise, when necessary, all chapter procedures for selection, disciplining, and dismissal of members. Selection is conducted by an anonymous committee made up of 3 teachers from Fowler Middle School. This committee is selected by the principal of Fowler Middle School.

**Section 2.** To be eligible for consideration for membership, the candidate must have attended Fowler Middle School the equivalent of one full semester, must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 94% in core classes for the current school year and maintain citizenship grades of "E" and "S". A student would also be eligible if the student is a NJHS member who transfers from another school and brings a letter from the principal or chapter adviser to the Fowler Middle School Adviser. Upon receipt of the letter by the Fowler Middle School Adviser, the transfer student shall be accepted automatically as a member in Fowler Middle School's chapter. Transfer members must meet the new chapter's standards within one semester in order to retain membership.

**Section 3.** Students will not be considered for membership if they have received any marks against them in citizenship for the current school year. Students who have been assigned to multiple C-halls, multiple Short-Term ISS placements, ISS, or OSS for the current school year will not be considered for membership in the NJHS.

**Section 4.** Students meeting these academic and citizenship requirements will then be considered for membership based on service, leadership, and character.

**Section 5.** A candidate must complete and return the requested information with membership dues before the deadline to be selected for membership in the NJHS.

**Section 6.** All selections made by the Selection Committee are final.

**Section 7.** There will only be a Spring induction and a candidate must be present at both the rehearsal and the induction to be selected for membership in the NJHS.

### **ARTICLE III**

#### Membership Responsibilities

**Section 1.** Candidates are required to uphold all standards by which they were selected according to the NJHS By-Laws once they have been notified of qualifying for the NJHS. Once inducted as full members, members must maintain the same standards by which they were selected.

**Section 2.** Members must maintain an overall average of 94% in core classes for each six weeks, with no individual core class average below 80%. In the event that a member petitions a grade change from a teacher, it will be the policy of the chapter to honor the grade printed on the report card until official notification is received by the chapter sponsor. Members must maintain citizenship grades of “E” or “S”. Members must not be assigned to C-hall, Short-Term ISS, ISS, or OSS.

**Section 3.** Members must complete and turn in to the sponsor at least 4 service hours EACH six weeks, for a total of 20 hours by the end of the 5th six weeks. All service hours must be documented on the correct six week service hour sheet designated by the sponsor. If a member chooses to complete service hours over the summer, they may use these for the first six weeks requirement. All other service hours will be counted in the six weeks during which they are performed.

**Section 4.** Members must attend all regular and special meetings of the chapter. If you are absent from school on the day of a meeting, it is your responsibility to turn in all service hours to the sponsor on the day you return. Regular meetings will be held at the end of each six weeks grading period. Failure to attend meetings without prior approval from the sponsor may result in probation or impending dismissal from the chapter. In particular, when a member incurs his/her first unexcused absence from a chapter meeting, he/she will be placed on probation. If there is a second offense, it will result in grounds for dismissal from the NJHS.

**Section 5.** Attendance at the spring induction ceremony is required.

### **ARTICLE IV**

#### Probation, Dismissal, and Resignation

**Section 1.** Members who fail to maintain the academic and/or citizenship requirements stipulated in the Membership Responsibilities section of these by-laws will be placed on probation.

**Section 2.** A member will be placed on probation if his/her overall average falls below 94% in his/her core classes or if he/she receives a grade below 80% for any grading period in a core class. A member will also be placed on probation for failing to turn in the required number of service hours by the deadlines set by the sponsor. If a member is assigned to C-hall, Short-Term ISS, ISS, or OSS, the member will be subject to immediate dismissal. A member will also be subject to immediate dismissal upon receiving an “N” or “U” in citizenship.

**Section 3.** Members on probation will be notified in writing and will not be allowed to participate in chapter activities during the probation period, but will still be required to attend the meetings. The probation period will be for one entire six weeks.

**Section 4.** If a member is placed on probation a second time during the school year, the member is subject to dismissal. The member will be notified in writing by the sponsors of the right to a hearing to explain any extenuating circumstances related to the second probation. The member also has the right to resign prior to the dismissal.

**Section 5.** For purposes of dismissal, the member will be notified in writing of the decision by the sponsors.

**Section 6.** Resignation from the NJHS shall involve the submission of a written statement by the resigning member that is dated and signed by both the student and his/her parent(s). Verbal resignations are insufficient to end membership.

**Section 7.** A member who resigns or is dismissed will not be eligible for the NJHS the following year.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **Officers**

**Section 1.** Prior to officer elections, NJHS members will be afforded the opportunity to self-nominate for various officer positions. Upon nomination, each candidate must agree to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of the office being sought. These duties and responsibilities are set forth by the NJHS Sponsors. These nominations will be placed on a ballot and voted upon secretly by all current NJHS members.

**Section 2.** Once elected as an officer, he/she must abide by all the NJHS By-Laws. In addition, if an officer is placed on probation for any behavioral infraction, academics, citizenship, is tardy for 2 or more required meetings, and/or misses any required meetings, it will be grounds for immediate dismissal as an officer. Officers will also be expected to complete all tasks assigned by the sponsor.

**Section 3.** If an officer is dismissed from office, the NJHS sponsor will appoint a current officer to fulfill his/her duties for the remainder of the current academic year.